

Parma, 27 January 2012

ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE UNIT

**Web minutes of the 1st AHAW Network meeting on the request for technical assistance
on Schmallenberg virus**

27 January 2012 (11:00-12:00 h) - teleconference

EFSA / AHAW

Participants

External experts: Franz J Conraths, Wim Oooms, Wim van der Poel, Helen Roberts, Trevor Drew, Ann Birgitte Caij, Philippe Houdart, Claude Saegerman, Edit Authié, Pascal Hendrikx, Stephan Zientara

EFSA: Ana Afonso (Chair), Jane Richardson, Jose Cortina Abrahantes, Katriina Willgert, Irena Karlova

ECDC: Celine Gossner

DG SANCO: Francisco Reviriego Gordejo, Marina Marini and Francesco Berlingieri

1. Welcome and apologies

2. Adoption of agenda

3. Discussions

EFSA Assistance request – objectives and time lines

EFSA is going to be requested to provide technical assistance on “Schmallenberg” virus (SBV) by the European Commission (EC). The assistance request is expected to ask for a preliminary report of:

- possible epidemiological scenarios over the forthcoming months
- an overview of the current and evolving situation in Member States as well as surveillance being carried out at national level
- impact of the infection on animal health, animal production and public health

Based on the expected terms of reference, data collection needs should be agreed on and harmonised across Member States. EFSA can offer guidance on data collection and support in coordinating activities between affected Member States. An overview of research activities at European level is also needed.

Notification: Case definitions/ data collection

All affected Member States at the present time (Belgium, Germany, France, Netherlands, United Kingdom) have publically available data on the number of confirmed SBV cases.

Some countries have also shared information on the species affected, location at a regional level and diagnostic method.

Coordination of epidemiological data collection and research activities:

Ideally, mandates and research proposals in Member States should be shared to strengthen collaboration and prevent duplication of activities. However, the focus of the preliminary report should be on information and tools available at the present time.

4. Pending actions

5. Next meeting date

February 1st, 2012 (conference call)

February 9th, 2012 (conference call)